

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XH, US

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY ON EASTERN EUROPE BEFORE HIRC BY DAS
LUERS

1. THE HIRC SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST,
CHAired BY CONGRESSMAN LEE HAMILTON, HAS SCHEDULED HEARINGS
IN MID-AUGUST ON EASTERN EUROPE AND US POLICY. THE SUBCOM-
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MITTEE PLANS TO CALL NON-GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON AUGUST 14
(CHARLES GATI OF UNION COLLEGE AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY,
PAUL MARER OF UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA). ON AUGUST 16 DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS WILL TESTIFY AS THE ADMINISTRA-
TION WITNESS.

2. DEPARTMENT VIEWS THESE HEARINGS AS A PARTICULARLY USE-

FUL AND TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO BROADEN CONGRESSIONAL AWARENESS OF THE COMPLEXITIES OF EASTERN EUROPE AND TO ELUCIDATE US POLICY. LUERS WILL PROVIDE THE SUBCOMMITTEE WITH A FAIRLY DETAILED STATEMENT (SUGGESTED OUTLINE BELOW), FROM WHICH HE WILL EXTRACT A 15-20 MINUTE SUMMARY. HIS PRESENTATION WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD LASTING ONE TO ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS.

3. POSTS ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON THIS SUGGESTED OUTLINE, BOTH ON FORMAT AND CONTENT. IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD APPRE-

CIATE BRIEF THOUGHTS ON THE COMMON EASTERN EUROPEAN TRENDS WE PLAN TO COVER. ARE THEY APPROPRIATE; ARE THERE OTHERS MORE SIGNIFICANT, ETC.? WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR THOUGHTS ON TOPICS WHERE DISCUSSION SHOULD BE AVOIDED. TO BE MOST USEFUL, REPLIES SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED PRIORITY NOT LATER THAN COB AUGUST 7. PLEASE SLUG REPLIES FOR EUR/EE AND INR/RSE.

4. SUGGESTED OUTLINE:

I. WHAT IS EASTERN EUROPE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

-- HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, ESPECIALLY 20TH CENTURY EVENTS AND CHANGES;

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-- DEFINITION OF AREA (FOR PURPOSES OF THIS TESTIMONY, INCLUDING GDR, EXCLUDING YUGOSLAVIA, BALTIC STATES, USSR);

-- EVOLUTION TOWARD GREATER DIVERSITY.

II. COUNTRY PROFILES:

-- ALBANIA

-- BULGARIA

-- CZECHOSLOVAKIA

-- GDR

-- HUNGARY

-- POLAND

-- ROMANIA

III. CURRENT TRENDS/THEMES:

-- POLITICAL: NATIONALISM, RELIGION, DISSENT, RELATIONS
WITH USSR, ROLE OF THE PARTY.

-- ECONOMIC: INTERNAL REFORM, CONSUMERISM, DECENTRALIZA-
TION, EXTERNAL TRADE, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, (COMECON),
IES WITH USSR, TRADE WITH THE WEST.

-- MILITARY: IMPLICATIONS AND TRENDS, RELIABILITY OF
WARSAW PACT FORCES, ROMANIAN ROLE IN WARSAW PACT.

IV. U.S. POLICIES

-- PAST APPROACH BASED IN MANY INSTANCES LARGELY ON RELA-
TIONS WITH USSR;

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-- PRESENT EFFORT TO TREAT EACH COUNTRY INDIVIDUALLY,
RECOGNIZING THEIR DIVERSITY;

-- OBJECTIVES: TO ENCOURAGE MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE FROM
SOVIETS IN FOREIGN POLICY;

- TO FOSTER BROADER INTERNAL LIBERALIZATION, PARTICULARLY
IN ECONOMIC AND HUMAN RIGHTS AREAS;

- TO IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE US ACTIONS CAN ENCOURAGE
GREATER INDEPENDENCE ABROAD AND LIBERALIZATION AT HOME;

- TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENT TRENDS TO FURTHER US
INTERESTS;

- TO RESOLVE LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS; AND

- TO MAXIMIZE BILATERAL TIES BOTH IN THEMSELVES AND IN
CONTEXT OF BROADER EAST-WEST RELATIONSHIPS. VANCE

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